IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of forming a single printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) monitoring a user's access patterns to the hyper-text documents;

(b) from said monitoring, accessing the hyper-text documents including structure information of the accessed hyper-text documents;

(c) compiling a list of the accessed hyper-text documents using the structure information; and

(d) formatting the list into the printable document comprising each hyper-text document selected from the list.

2. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein steps (a), (b), (c), and (d) are conducted while the user accesses at least the hyper-text documents.

3. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the printable document is updated upon new hyper-text pages being accessed.

4. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said steps are performed in a background mode relative to the user's access to the hyper-text documents.

5. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein steps (b) to (d) are performed asynchronously to the user's access to the hyper-text documents.

6. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said steps are performed substantially in synchronism to said user's access to the hyper-text documents.

7. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein step (d) comprises the steps of formatting the printable document for multiple column page printing on a printer output device.

8. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the printable document comprises a plurality of the hyper-text documents on at least one page of the printable document.

9. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the printable document comprises a table of contents listing each hyper-text document represented in the printable document wherein each entry in the table of contents is labeled with the position at which the corresponding hyper-text document occurs within the printable document.

10. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the printable document comprises a hyper-link index of at least one hyper link reference of each hyper-text document represented in the printable document.

11. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein each hyper-link reference in the printable document is tagged with a cross-reference to a corresponding entry in the hyper-link index.

12. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein said hyper-link index comprises all hyper-link references of each hyper-text document represented in the printable document.

13. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein at least one hyper-text document comprises an HTML document.

14. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the hyper-text documents are accessed using Internet protocols.

15. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the printable document in preview form during accesses to the hyper-text documents.

16. (Amended) A method of forming a single printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said method comprising steps of:

(a) accessing the hyper-text documents including corresponding structure information;

(b) collating and formatting the accessed hyper-text documents using the structure information and at least a predetermined printable document format to form the printable document in which the accessed hyper-text documents are contiguously arranged therein over at least one printable page thereof.

17. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein at least some of the hyper-text documents are determined by accepting a specification from a user of at least one root hyper-text document and adding to the root hyper-text document further hyper-text documents which are hyper-linked from the root hyper-text document and which have certain specified characteristics defined by the user.

18. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the printable document includes a table of contents listing each hyper-text document represented in the printable document wherein each entry in the table of contents is labeled with the position at which the corresponding hyper-text document occurs within the printable document.

19. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the printable document comprises a hyper-link index of at least one hyper-link reference of each hyper-text document represented in the printable document.

20. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein each hyper-link reference in the printable document is tagged with a cross-reference to a corresponding entry in the hyper-link index.

21. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the hyper-link index comprises all hyper-link references of each hyper-text document represented in the printable document.

22. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the hyper-text documents are HTML documents.

23. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the hyper-text documents are accessed using Internet protocols.

24. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, further comprising the step of displaying the printable document in preview form while the user accesses the hyper-text documents.

26. (Unamended) A method according to claim 16, wherein the predetermined printable document format comprises multiple columns arranged on pages of the printable document and into which the accessed hyper-text documents are contiguously arranged.

27. (Twice Amended) A computer implemented method for forming a single printable document by collating a plurality of documents obtained from a plurality of sources, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring accesses to documents in sequence;

recording the contents of a plurality of selected ones of the documents including structure information relating to each selected document; and

collating the selected documents according to a predetermined order of collation to form the printable document, said collating comprising arranging at least one display page

according to a size of each selected document based upon the corresponding structure information, wherein the printable document is reproducible at least by printing.

28. (Unamended) A computer system comprising:

a network comprising a source of a plurality of documents each individually accessible via a corresponding resource locater and in which the documents include therein links that afford access to others of the documents;

means for monitoring access to the documents via said resource locater and compiling a list of accessed ones of the documents, the list including the corresponding links and structure information pertaining to each accessed document; and

means for collating the list into a selected order and for formatting the accessed documents within the list into a single printable document having at least components corresponding to the accessed documents arranged in the selected order.

29. (Twice Amended) A computer readable medium including instruction modules arranged to collate for printing a single document a plurality of documents derived from a plurality of sources in a network, said modules comprising:

a monitoring module for monitoring browsing operations throughout the network;

a compiling module for compiling a list of selected documents encountered during the browsing operations;

a collating module for collating user selected ones of the documents from the list into a single printable document in which each selected document is formatted according to structure information derived during the monitoring; and

a printing module for causing a printing of the single printable document thereby

causing hard copy reproduction of the single printable document and the selected

documents.

30. (Unamended) A medium as claimed in claim 29 wherein said medium is one of a

computer network, a hard disk, a floppy disk and an optical disk.

31.   (Unamended) A computer program product having a computer readable medium

having a computer program recorded thereon for forming a printable document by collating

a plurality of hyper-text documents, said computer program product comprising:

means for monitoring a user's access patterns to the hyper-text documents;

means for accessing the hyper-text documents including structure information of the

accessed hyper-text documents;

means for compiling a list of selected ones of the hyper-text documents using the

structure information; and

means for formatting the list into the printable document comprising the selected ones

of the accessed hyper-text documents.

32. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein step (d) comprises the

step of maximizing the number of the hyper-text documents on each page of the printable

document.

33. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 32, wherein step (d) comprises the steps of formatting each hyper-text document according to a predetermined printable document format, determining if space exists on a page of the printable document for a formatted hyper-text document and, if so, inserting the formatted hyper-text document into the printable document and, if not, creating a further page in the printable document and inserting the formatted hyper-text document into the further page.

34. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein step (b) comprises the steps of formatting the hyper-text documents into the printable document using one of a single or multiple column format and optimizing the number of the hyper-text documents on each page of the printable document.

35. (Unamended) A method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the printable document is comprises at least one printable column and is formatted to provide at least continuous page-length columns for each printable column excepting a last column where a size of said hyper-text documents when so formatted exceeds one said column.

36. (Unamended) A method according to Claim 35, wherein printable pages of the printable document are formatted with at least two columns.

37. (Amended) A method according to Claim 35, wherein the hyper-text documents are formatted within the plural ones of the columns in such a manner to continuously reasonably fill each of the columns whereupon a non-fitting remainder of the hyper-text

document is formatted at least into an immediately succeeding column of the printable

document.

38. (Unamended) A computer implemented method for forming a single printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) initiating a first application for accessing and browsing hyper-text documents;

(b) initiating a second application, said second application:

(1) monitoring access patterns of the first application;

(2) fetching hyper-text documents accessed by the first application including corresponding structure information of the accessed hyper-text document; and

(3) creating a formatted single printable document version of the accessed hyper-text documents.

REMARKS

Summary of patentability issue

MPEP § 2142 requires the Office to provide evidence that the skilled artisan would be more likely than not to combine the references to produce the claimed invention. Here, that evidence is the Yoda patent's statement that its goal is to print hypermedia documents in an easy-to-use format. But the Yoda patent explains that this statement refers to the goals of avoiding duplicate printing and assigning serial page numbers to printed, linked documents. Neither goal is necessarily achieved by formatting a list of user-accessed hyper-text